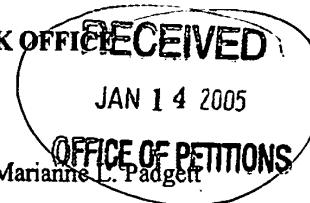


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: )  
Kenji ITOH et al. )  
Serial No. 09/412,510 )  
Filed: October 5, 1999 )  
For: PROCESS FOR TREATING A SUBSTRATE )  
WITH A PLASMA )



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

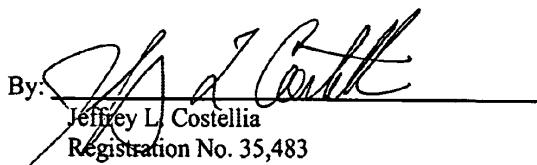
In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/438,581 was cited as the basis of a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the Office Action dated March 29, 2004 in the subject application, and considered by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention a new Office Action that was mailed in the '581 application on December 23, 2004. In addition, Applications wish to note that U.S. Patent No. 5,275,665 issued to Okazaki et al., which is listed on form PTO-892 of the Office Action included herewith, was previously cited in the above application on June 29, 2004.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380, (740756-2045).

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Jeffrey L. Costellia  
Registration No. 35,483

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20004-2128  
Telephone: (202) 585-8000